

occur the weekend of October 28, followed by conviction and expulsion from the country. Finally, a commitment was made that the release would occur this past weekend in Vietnam.

While all of this goes to show that freedom of speech and due process are still scarce in Vietnam, I am pleased that normalization has apparently given us more tools to pursue issues of dispute with the Vietnamese Government. The two Americans have now been released, but many political prisoners, whose only crime has been to address issues of religious and political freedom, remain locked away in Vietnamese prisons.

I am encouraged as well that the Vietnamese have been more forthcoming with the release of information about MIA's and POW's after normalization. We must continue our efforts with Vietnam to pursue a full accounting, as my resolution also has requested.

Again, I applaud the personal intervention of Secretary Warren Christopher and Secretary Lord on this important matter, and I also look forward to working with them to pursue our mutual goals now that we have normalized our relationships with Vietnam.

To Mr. Tri and to Mr. Liem I say, Welcome home.

Mr. President, I yield the floor. I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ASHCROFT). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### HOLD THE LINE—NO COMPROMISE

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, recently I received a letter from a constituent named Sue Magruder, who lives in Snohomish, WA. This is what she wrote:

DEAR SENATOR GORTON: Hold the line. If the President decides to veto and the Government shuts down, so be it. We don't need all this Government, and compromise is out of the question.

Please pass this sentiment on to the rest of your colleagues. We want you to hold the line. Don't compromise with my tax dollars because there is no more to give.

Mrs. Magruder and her husband are small business people in the town of Snohomish, WA. They feel—and I think they feel justly—that they are overburdened with regulation and with taxes, with attempting to support themselves, with attempting to make both their own family and their community a better place in which to live. And they, together with millions of other Americans like them, want us to continue on the course that we set out at the beginning of this year—the course that will bring the budget into balance, a course that will remove at least some

of the duplicative and unnecessary regulations from their backs, a course which will lessen the burden of taxation, which governments at all levels impose on them.

They, unlike many Members of Congress, believe that the money that they earn is their own, and that they can be asked to give some of that to support common purposes. They disagree, however, that somehow or another everything they earn belongs to the Government, which, in its generosity, will allow them to keep some of it. That is a fundamental disagreement that they have with many Members of this body and many others who live and work in this Capital of the United States. They know that every penny the Government gets comes out of the pocket of some hard-working American citizen or some other person who lives and works at some point or another in this country.

Sue Magruder wrote that there is no more to give. In that line, she was concentrating on herself and her family and her community. But at least an equally undesirable—no, immoral element in the way in which this Government has been run during the course of the last 20, 30, or 40 years is that we spend money by the hundreds of billions of dollars that we are not taking directly from our citizens in the form of taxes, but are borrowing, at interest, and sending the bill not to the citizens who live and work in the United States now, but to their children and our children and grandchildren. That, Mr. President, is a greater imposition, a greater wrong done to them than can possibly be done by any control over the increase in spending policies, by the cancellation of any marginal Government spending program.

We simply do not have the right to spend the money on consumption today and ask our children and their children and their children to pay the bill. That is the central issue; that is the central question which separates us from a White House that believes in the status quo and believes that there really is nothing wrong with the continuation of multibillion-dollar deficits year after year, as far as the eye can see. And it is on that proposition, Mr. President, that I do not believe that constructive compromise is possible. Once the White House, once the administration realizes the depth of our feeling on this issue, once it comes to its senses and is willing to join us in the goal of balancing the budget in 7 long years, on the basis of realistic projections, then, Mr. President, I think many things are said to be compromised. Many elements of the spending program can go up while others go down. I do not believe that there is any absolute bottom line after we have reached that conclusion. Under those circumstances, compromise will be a constructive activity. But to compromise away the proposition that we must stop spending more than we take in would be essentially wrong, would be

a repudiation of the commitments that those in the majority made to our voters last year. Mr. President, I am convinced it cannot and will not be done.

So, if I may, I will end these comments by repeating one part of Sue Magruder's letter:

We want you to hold the line. Don't compromise with my tax dollars because there is no more to give.

Mr. President, that is correct and that is the line that we are going to continue to hold.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES— H.R. 2546

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the order of November 2, 1995, the Chair is authorized to appoint conferees on the bill, H.R. 2546.

The Presiding Officer appointed Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. HATFIELD, Mr. KOHL, and Mr. INOUE conferees on the part of the Senate.

#### THE DEATH OF ISRAEL PRIME MINISTER YITZHAK RABIN

Mr. ROBB. Mr. President, it is with a sad heart that I offer a few final words today on behalf of Yitzhak Rabin—statesman, military war hero, peacemaker, and friend.

His burial in Jerusalem on Monday casts a pall over Israel and the Middle East. The resilient people of Israel will overcome this tragedy, but his assassination reminds us of the extremist poisons that continue to threaten Yitzhak Rabin's dream—peace between Israel and the Arab world.

I first met Yitzhak Rabin when he served as Ambassador to the United States beginning in 1968. It was one of many leadership posts he held in a long and distinguished career. From brigade commander in the 1948 war of independence to Army Chief of Staff during the historic 6-day success in the 1967 war to Ambassador and then Prime Minister on two different occasions, Yitzhak Rabin embodied the fighting, and now peacemaking, Jewish spirit.

I had the good fortune of visiting with him many times over a period of three decades. Following the raid on Entebbe, he honored my mother-in-law, my wife, and me with a state dinner in Jerusalem in 1973. During visits to Israel since then, and on his trips to Washington, I continued to learn from Yitzhak Rabin's political wisdom and insights, as well as appreciate the difficulty of living in a world surrounded by declared adversaries. His was a